

STATE OF MICHIGAN
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter of the application of	)	
UPPER PENINSULA POWER COMPANY	)	
for waivers of certain Service Quality and	)	Case No. U-21420
Reliability Standards for Electric Distribution	)	
Systems pursuant to R 460.751 and related relief.	)	
_____	)	

At the June 12, 2025 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing,
Michigan.

PRESENT: Hon. Daniel C. Scripps, Chair
Hon. Katherine L. Peretick, Commissioner
Hon. Alessandra R. Carreon, Commissioner

ORDER

On March 24, 2023, the Commission issued an order in Case No. U-20629 that amended the rules governing the service quality and reliability standards for electric distribution systems (amended SQRS), Mich Admin Code, R 460.701 *et seq.* The amended SQRS were filed with Michigan’s Office of the Great Seal and became effective on April 10, 2023. The first annual report required under the amended SQRS was due April 29, 2024, and required, among other information, reporting on the number of non-residential customers experiencing momentary

interruptions.¹ *See*, Mich Admin Code, R 460.731, and Mich Admin Code, R 460.732(r) (Rule 32(r)).

On August 30, 2023, the Commission issued an order in Case No. U-21420 (August 30 order), which, among other things, approved a request by Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCo) “for temporary waivers of Mich Admin Code, R 460.732(h)(i) and (h)(ii), R 460.732(p), and R 460.732(r) of the Commission’s Service Quality and Reliability Standards for Electric Distribution Systems . . . until April 30, 2025”² August 30 order, pp. 6-7. The August 30 order also acknowledged that:

UPPCo’s first distribution investment and maintenance plan (distribution plan) is due on January 31, 2025, and, in the interim from the date of issuance of this order and January 31, 2025, the company should be developing its distribution plan. In the course of developing the plan, UPPCo’s timelines for upgrading its [outage management System] (OMS), [geographic information system] (GIS), and [advanced meter infrastructure] (AMI) systems may change or become more definitive. As these timelines become more definitive, UPPCo may file a new waiver request application that reflects the timelines in its January 31, 2025 distribution plan. The April 30, 2025 expiration date for the waivers provides the Commission Staff with three months in which to compare any pending waiver request to the newly filed distribution plan and to process any pending waiver application before the current waiver expires. Accordingly, approval of the temporary and permanent waivers is reasonable and promotes efficient use of company resources.

Id., pp. 5-6 (footnote omitted).

¹ Mich Admin Code, R 460.702(o), defines momentary interruptions as “the full or partial loss of service to 1 or more customers for less than or equal to 5 minutes, including all reclosing operations that occur within 5 minutes of the first interruption.”

² Mich Admin Code, R 460.751(1), permits “[a]n electric utility or cooperative [to] petition the commission for a permanent or temporary waiver or exception from [the SQRS] rules when specific circumstances beyond the control of the electric utility or cooperative render compliance impossible or when compliance would be unduly economically burdensome or technologically infeasible.”

On March 21, 2025, UPPCo filed an application for *ex parte* approval requesting in the instant case (March 21 application) to extend the temporary waiver of the momentary interruptions reporting requirements of Rule 32(r) “of the Service Quality Rules until such time that the necessary upgrades to the company’s AMI system are completed.” March 21 application, p. 4. UPPCo represents in its March 21 application that:

UPPCo’s software systems and [. . .] AMI system are not currently capable of providing this information. Specifically, UPPCo’s [. . .] OMS does not capture momentary interruptions currently.

* * *

Further, UPPCo’s AMI system was designed and built for customer billing purposes, not to collect outage data for the purposes of compliance with the new Service Quality Rules. Also, UPPCo’s OMS and GIS do not depict customers by rate class. Therefore, currently UPPCo is unable to discern momentary or sustained outages or to report by customer rate class. Such reporting will require significant software development, integration, and upgrades by UPPCo’s software vendors. To date, UPPCo has improved the capability of reliability reporting, continues to plan for these necessary modifications, and will present [the] same in a future regulatory proceeding.

Id., pp. 3-4. As a result, UPPCo requests “a waiver rule of Rule 32(r) of the Service Quality Rules until such time that the necessary upgrades to the company’s AMI system are completed.” *Id.*, p. 4.

The Commission, having considered UPPCo’s application, finds that the extension of the temporary waiver is reasonable and promotes the efficient use of company resources, and should be approved. Furthermore, a petition for a waiver not involving a customer credit provision may be granted by the Commission without notice or hearing. *See*, Mich Admin Code, R 460.752(2). Because UPPCo’s systems do not yet have the capability to determine customer momentary outages, the Commission finds that a temporary waiver is reasonable. Therefore, the Commission

finds it reasonable and appropriate to grant the extension until April 30, 2027.³ UPPCo may apply for an additional temporary waiver of Rule 32(r) prior to the expiration of the waiver. Finally, *ex parte* review and approval are appropriate because approval of the waiver will not affect rates or rate schedules resulting in an increase in the cost of service. *See*, MCL 460.6a(3). Accordingly, the Commission approves the extension of the temporary waiver.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Upper Peninsula Power Company's request for an extension of the temporary waiver of the momentary interruptions reporting requirement pursuant to Mich Admin Code, R 460.732(r), of the Commission's rules governing service quality and reliability standards for electric distribution systems is granted until April 30, 2027.

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

³ The Commission notes that although the application for the requested temporary waiver was timely filed, the time required to process the request and issue an order on the March 21 application results in an immaterial gap in the temporary waiver of Rule 32(r) of the SQRS.

Any party desiring to appeal this order must do so in the appropriate court within 30 days after issuance and notice of this order, pursuant to MCL 462.26. To comply with the Michigan Rules of Court's requirement to notify the Commission of an appeal, appellants shall send required notices to both the Commission's Executive Secretary and to the Commission's Legal Counsel.

Electronic notifications should be sent to the Executive Secretary at LARA-MPSC-Edockets@michigan.gov and to the Michigan Department of Attorney General - Public Service Division at sheacl@michigan.gov. In lieu of electronic submissions, paper copies of such notifications may be sent to the Executive Secretary and the Attorney General - Public Service Division at 7109 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, MI 48917.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Daniel C. Scripps, Chair

Katherine L. Peretick, Commissioner

Alessandra R. Carreon, Commissioner

By its action of June 12, 2025.

Lisa Felice, Executive Secretary

PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

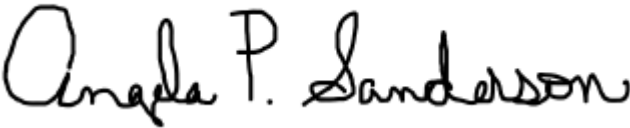
Case No. U-21420

County of Ingham)

Brianna Brown being duly sworn, deposes and says that on June 12, 2025 A.D. she electronically notified the attached list of this **Commission Order via e-mail transmission**, to the persons as shown on the attached service list (Listserv Distribution List).


Brianna Brown

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 12th day of June 2025.



Angela P. Sanderson
Notary Public, Shiawassee County, Michigan
As acting in Eaton County
My Commission Expires: May 21, 2030

Service List for Case: U-21420

Name	On Behalf Of	Email Address
Sherri A. Wellman	Upper Peninsula Power Company	wellmans@millercanfield.com
Upper Peninsula Power Company	Upper Peninsula Power Company	jlarsen@uppc.com